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Viewing cable 08BERLIN1467, ATTEMPTED EXPORT OF GERMAN-ORIGIN HELICOPTERS TO AFGHANISTAN

If you are new to these pages, please read an introduction on the [structure of a cable](#) as well as how to [discuss them](#) with others. See also the [FAQs](#)

Understanding cables

Every cable message consists of three parts:

- The top box shows each cable's unique reference number, when and by whom it originally was sent, and what its initial classification was.
- The middle box contains the header information that is associated with the cable. It includes information about the receiver(s) as well as a general subject.
- The bottom box presents the body of the cable. The opening can contain a more specific subject, references to other cables ([browse by origin](#) to find them) or additional comment. This is followed by the main contents of the cable: a summary, a collection of specific topics and a comment section.

To understand the justification used for the classification of each cable, please use this [WikiSource](#) article as reference.

Discussing cables

If you find meaningful or important information in a cable, please link directly to its unique reference number. Linking to a specific paragraph in the body of a cable is also possible by copying the appropriate link (to be found at the paragraph symbol). Please mark messages for social networking services like Twitter with the hash tags **#cablegate** and a hash containing the reference ID e.g. **#08BERLIN1467**.

Reference ID	Created	Released	Classification	Origin
08BERLIN1467	2008-10-30 06:29	2011-08-30 01:44	SECRET	Embassy Berlin

Appears in these articles:

<http://www.spiegel.de>

WL:

[This](#)

URL?

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,732127,00.html>

VZCZCXYZ0003

PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHRL #1467/01 3040629

ZNY SSSSS ZZH

P 300629Z OCT 08

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2490

INFO RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY 0654

RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0572

RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY 9354

RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 1505

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

RHMFSS/HQ USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

RHMFSS/HQ USEUCOM VAHINGEN GE PRIORITY

S E C R E T BERLIN 001467

SIPDIS

EUR/CE FOR HODGES AND SCHROEDER T/PM/DDTC FOR MALONEY, TRIMBLE

AND ZERDEN DOD FOR DEFENSE SECURITY COOPERATION AGENCY DSCA FOR MAJ.

ORENCHICK DOD FOR DEFENSE CONTRACTING COMMAND CENTCOM FOR COL. KULVAS

EUCOM / TRANSCOM FOR LNO SIERS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/31/2033 TAGS: [KOMC](#) [ECCT](#) [AF](#) [GM](#)

SUBJECT: ATTEMPTED EXPORT OF GERMAN-ORIGIN HELICOPTERS TO AFGHANISTAN

Classified By: A/DCM Robert A. Pollard, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#). (U) This is an urgent action request. See comment and action requests in paragraphs 11 and 12.

[12](#). (S) Summary: Embassy Berlin has become aware that a U.S. firm, Presidential Airways, appears to have moved German-origin helicopters to Turkey.
Background

[13](#). (C) In approximately mid-September 2008, the vice-president of Presidential Airways, Mr. Tim Childrey, contacted Embassy Berlin's Office of

[14](#). (C) ODC Germany worked with the Economics/Global Affairs section of Embassy Berlin and determined that the export license application was

[15](#). (C) Efforts by Prince Group personnel and lobbyists from Eurocopter Deutschland did not succeed in forcing an early decision. The Puma

[16](#). (C) On 10 Oct 2008, Eurocopter Deutschland received a letter from the German Economics Ministry stating they had information that these

[17](#). (C) On 27 Oct 2008, the Senior Legal Counsel for Eurocopter Deutschland, Dr. Kraemer forwarded the above-described letter from the German

[18](#). (SBU) On 28 OCT 2008, ODC Germany contacted Mr. Childrey of Presidential Airways and inquired about the case. Presidential Airways informed

Childrey noted that his company could no longer afford to wait on the German decision, and had decided to take the helicopters to the UK, which

[19](#). (S) We have conflicting information on the likely disposition of this matter by Germany's Federal Security Council, currently scheduled for

[110](#). (S) At no time did Embassy Berlin advise Presidential Airways to remove the Pumas from Germany without proper export permission or other

[111](#). (S) COMMENT: If Presidential Airways and the Prince Group have played a role in exporting German-origin helicopters to Afghanistan without

[112](#). (S) Action Request: We are unaware of which, if in fact any, State Department Office Presidential or Prince Group approached on this

Timken Jr